

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : AD/RR

DATE: 20 September 1956

FROM : SA/RR

SUBJECT: Comments on St/PC FY '56 Statistical Summaries of Economic Research

-Highlights-

TABLE II

1. 10% less "research" in FY '56 than FY '55.
2. Less than half as many hours on "Finished Intelligence" and 22 fewer reports in FY '56 vs. FY '55.
3. An average of 180 hrs/finished report in FY '56 vs. 400/report in '55 -- while not really accurate it does indicate a trend towards "smaller" RR's, PR's, etc.
4. An increasing number and percentage of finished reports are in the "SC/RR" category, 45 vs. 31 and 36% vs. 21%.
5. A doubled effort on NIS in FY '56.
6. Slightly less effort on all "support" projects in FY '56 vs. FY '55.
7. More projects "cancelled" and fewer "rejected" possibly indicating that the bad ones are caught before completion. In any case, about $\frac{1}{4}$ as many as were completed were cancelled.
8. Almost half the total research hours expended were on 137 projects not completed during the fiscal year. It is unlikely that these 137 are all nearly complete -- thus a big carryover into FY '57 is indicated. The FY '57 Program has only a token allowance (2%) for carry-over projects.

TABLE III

1. Actual distribution of all available hours by activity compares well with the planned distribution. Actual percentage was high on Intelligence Maintenance and low on Training as compared with the plan.
2. The new FY '57 plan for distribution of hours by activity follows closely the FY '56 actual experience factors.

TABLE IV

1. 59% of total effort or an equivalent 150 analysts (including CSS) were devoted to direct support of other offices and agencies. This is comparable to the FY '56 plan and with 63% in the FY '57 plan.

SUBJECT: Comments on St/PC FY '56 Statistical Summaries of Economic Research

2. NIS actual support in FY '56 was 19% vs. 11% planned.
3. Support to OCI was 7% (including CSS) ~~of~~ total available manpower. The ultimate target for this category should probably be 15%.
4. Some 13,000 manhours (an equivalent 15 man years) were expended on intra-branch consultation -- an interesting figure in the face of the charge that our analysts don't get together.

TABLE I

1. Actual distribution of research hours by geographical target area was reasonably close to the FY '56 planned. The FY '57 plan shows a slight trend away from the USSR as a research target area.
2. The FY '56 actual hours shows an appreciable increase (from 26% to 33% of total research) over FY '55 in the proportion of studies which are "aggregative" in nature -- considered a desirable trend.

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